



Church of the Sacred Heart

The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

Parish Office / Mailing Address:

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Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles | 6-29-2025
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 7-6-2025

WELCOME VISITORS! TO SACRED HEART

If you are visiting Sacred Heart for the first time today, we would like to say **WELCOME!** Maybe you've been away for while or just passing through. Either way we would like for you to feel at home here. If you would like to join our Parish family we would be honored to have you as a member. Please feel free to call the Parish office if you have any questions or would like to join the parish. We would like to help in anyway!

OUR MISSION

Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups are Open to All Adults

The parish small groups continue to welcome new participants, even on a trial basis. For more information on the groups, contact Fr. Matt (fathermatt@stgregorynb.org).

Mondays from 6-7:30pm at the Herberg's—**We're off for the summer—back in the Fall!**

Wednesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rushseba Senior Living Center, Sandy Pelant.

Thursdays from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Parish House, Connie Blomquist & Jan Walz.

1st and 3rd Sunday from 9:30-11:30 in Parish House. **We're off for the summer—back in the Fall!**

Men's small group, **3rd Saturday** of each month @St. Gregory's from 7:30am-9am.



STS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:18-19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

WEEKDAY/WEEKEND MASSES

Sunday 8:30 am

Wednesday 9:00 am

1st Saturday of each month 9:00 am

ADORATION

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass until Noon

RECONCILIATION

1st Sunday at 8:00 am

After mass on every Wednesday or by appointment.

PASTOR

Fr. Matt Shireman

DEACON

Kevin Downie

ASSISTING PRIEST

Fr. Chuck Brambilla

PARISH OFFICE

Admin Asst: Marsha Marcussen

Bookkeeper: Mary Felix

mary@stgregorynb.org

Project Asst./Music: Steve Yurick

320-358-4370

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FAITH FORMATION

Sacred Heart :Tina Heidelberger

763-670-8594

faithformationshc@hotmail.com

Confirmation: Dion Scott

651-674-7382

dion@stgregorynb.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:30am. - 12:30 pm.

My Longest (Parish) Assignment

On July 1st, my current assignment as Pastor of St. Gregory's and Sacred Heart will officially become my longest assignment (of 3 years) as a clergy. My previous assignment as Parochial Vicar (i.e. Assistant Pastor) at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Hastings was for 3 years. My time as a Deacon and Priest at St. Stephen's in Anoka was for parts of 3 years. I am happy to call North Branch and Rush City my home and look forward to, God-willing, more years of living and serving among you as your spiritual father. Practically speaking, though, I am also glad to not have to be packing up and moving again.

In some ways, it seems like it has been a while since I said my first Friday Mass at St. Gregory's on July 1st of 2022 (and then sat down in my office to receive a bid for an AC unit for the church). But on the other hand, it seems like I am just starting. I am sorry if I don't know you personally well at this time, but I would ask you to go out of your way to introduce (or, likely reintroduce yourself) to me and perhaps find some way we can get to know each other better.

As you know, there have been some changes that we have been required to make. Sunday and daily Mass times have been set to best serve everyone (including when we have funerals)—and so that one priest can say all of the Masses on Sundays and Wednesdays. Many of the staff with years of experience have either passed the baton on to others or have taken on different roles. Paying weekly bills was a challenge when I first started, and although having good cashflow and more parishioners support the parishes will continue to be something to give some attention to, overall our finances are in pretty good shape for the long-term stability of the parishes. The parish small groups are certainly here to stay, and I would encourage once again those who do not belong to a small group to see involvement in such a group as basically essential to being a Catholic disciple in 2025.

As we begin my 4th year, I wish to highlight some things that will be of special focus. First and foremost, July also marks the launch of our wave of the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign (more details on that in the next bulletin). You can expect that the parish leadership and I will be pushing both parishes more into the mission of making disciples (also called evangelizing); we cannot just be in a mode of maintaining things that have been long-standing but are not bearing significant fruit. We are still in the process of hiring a Faith Formation (and Confirmation) coordinator at St. Gregory's, but I am still hopeful that we will have a full team in place before the start of the Faith Formation year. Following the completion of the Archdiocesan Synod Assembly on Pentecost, the focus of Synod Implementation (including in parish small groups) will be on Reclaiming the Lord's Day (note: St. Gregory's hosted a talk by that title in the spring) with that major rollout occurring with the start of the school year.

In conclusion, I am grateful to God and to Archbishop Hebda for beginning my 4th year. God has worked many things in our parishes, but I also know He has even more plans!

-Fr. Matt

PRAYER list...

"Prayers for the sick"

Lord, look upon me with eyes of mercy, may your healing hand rest upon me, may your life-giving powers flow into every cell of my body and into the depths of my soul, cleansing, purifying, restoring me to wholeness and strength for service in your Kingdom and especially for.....

Pat Mihm, Audrey Larson, Kim Wall, David Kirchberg, Carole Stenger, Connie Blomquist, Janet Yurick, Grace Schwaab, Judy Strandmark, Sue Roth, Gerald Mollberg, Erin Hestbeck-Mielke, Amy Granlund, Cheryl Gebhart-Trempe, Marianne Schmitz, Heidi Blatz, Gary Frazier, Shelly Repke, Betty Anderson Schlipp, Dorothy Kliegle, Jim Brenna, Jody Kliegle, Ken Kirchberg, Umbreit Family, Margery Steininger, Violet Pearson, Dick Johnson, Tori Yurick-Schieber. Amen!

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you or a loved one are ill in any way and would like to have your name included in the Sunday Prayers of the Faithful, contact the Parish office. Also, any prayer request or needs can be written in our Parish Intercessory Book in the back of church at any time.

COMMUNION VISITS

Are you or someone you know homebound and desiring to receive Holy Communion? Or in need of Confession or the Anointing of the Sick (which is not just for people who are actively dying)? Let the Church come to you! To set a time that works for you, please contact the parish office.

Mass Intentions

Wednesday, July 2nd
9:00 am †Mark Stenger

Saturday, July 5th
9:00 am † Amy Prickett

Sunday, July 6th- Hospitality Sunday
8:30 am † Joe & Elsie Moore

Wednesday, July 9th
9:00 am †Prayers for Mike Lee

Sunday, July 13th
8:30 am † Amy Prickett



PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

With several individuals connected to our parishes expressing interest in becoming fully initiated Catholics, Father Matt is holding an **OCIA (formerly RCIA) Inquiry Session on Sunday, July 13th at 11:45 a.m.** in **St. Gregory's Cry Room**.



OCIA—the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults—is for anyone **age 7 and up** who needs to get caught up on for **Baptism, First Eucharist, and/or Confirmation**. This brief summer session is an important first step before classes begin in the fall, leading to the Sacraments at Easter. If you or someone you know is interested, we'd love to see you there!

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE TO WISCONSIN

Join Fr. Matt for a meaningful parish pilgrimage to three beautiful holy sites in Wisconsin from **August 6–8**. This 3-day trip includes visits to **Our Lady of Champion, Holy Hill Basilica**, and the **Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, with a 2-night stay in **Appleton, WI**. The approximate cost is **\$410 per person for a double room or \$520 for a single room**. **Spots are limited due to bus capacity**. To reserve your place, call the Parish Office at **320-358-4370**. Don't miss this opportunity to travel, pray, and grow in faith with your parish community!



History Books and Graphic Novels: Available The Archdiocese's history books (\$36) and graphic novels (\$16) are now available for purchase in the church office. **Stop by during office hours to get your copy!**



Sisters of Sacred Heart Meeting & Fall Festival Planning

The Sisters of Sacred Heart next meeting will be on **Thursday, July 17th**. Fall Festival planning meetings are on **Tuesday, July 8th & 22nd at 6:30 PM** in Wey Hall.

Check Out Our Mini Church Library!

Hi everyone! Have you noticed the new mini library located by the door in the **vestibule**? It's filled with **Bibles, Christian books, clean reads, and children's books** – something for everyone!



Please feel free to **browse and take whatever you'd like**. No need to check anything out – just enjoy, read, and be blessed! –*Sandy Palent*



Sacred Heart Church invites all to the **9:00 AM First Saturday Mass, preceded by Morning Prayer at 8:45 AM**. Come join us in devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary each month. **Fellowship and hospitality are offered after the 9:00 AM Mass on the First Sunday of every month**—everyone is welcome!

Have You Updated Your Parish Information?

If you haven't updated your contact information with the Parish Office yet, please take a moment to do so. We'll soon have parish volunteers making calls to gather updated details for our church database.

Your help in keeping our records current is greatly appreciated—thank you!



YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults (ages 18 to 39) are invited to join the St. Peter's Young Adult Group in Forest Lake. For more information about events or to get on the email list, please visit <https://www.stpeterfl.org/young-adults> or email spfyoungadults@gmail.com

Wedding Banns –Second/Third Announcement



The Banns of Marriage are announced for: **Kelly Taffe**, daughter of Roman and Carol Taffe, and **Adam Eye**, son of **Jeff Eye (deceased)** and **Tura Eye**, who intend to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on **Saturday, July 19, 2025**, at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church**.

Let us keep **Kelly and Adam** in our prayers as they prepare to enter into this sacred covenant of marriage.

Parish News Continued

ARCHDIOCESAN PASSPORT ADVENTURE

Become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim: **Now through October 12**, visit seven or more parishes, including our Jubilee co-cathedrals and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them. Participate in a Mass at a different church to expand your liturgical experience. **Join others on October 12 for mass + Ice Cream Social at the Cathedral of Saint Paul (pre-registration required)**. Print your own passport by visiting <https://www.archspm.org/passport/> or by scanning the QR code in back of church on the large flyer.



Save the Date:

Mark your calendars! Our annual **Fall Festival** is coming up on **Sunday, September 21st**, and we need your help to make it a success!

Volunteers Needed

We'll need at least 25 volunteers for the kitchen alone—please consider lending a hand!

Silent Auction & Country Store Donations

We're collecting items for the **Silent Auction**—gift baskets, **themed packages, or new items** are all welcome. Need ideas? Check the sheet in the back of the church.

We're also stocking our **Country Store** with **canned goods, baked goods, homemade crafts, and other new, handmade items**. Your time, creativity, and generosity make this event possible. **Let's make this year's Fall Festival our best yet!**

Pints with Padres – Summer Series

Pints with Padre: Round Two!



If you missed the first one, now's your chance to join Fr. Matt for another evening of meaningful conversation, community, and faith—served up in a relaxed, welcoming setting.

- ☐ Thursday, July 31 – North Folk Winery, Stark
- ☐ Wednesday, August 20 – The Fuse, Harris

Each gathering begins at 6:00 PM, followed by a short talk and Q&A at 6:30 PM, and a social at 7:00 PM. Bring your questions, bring a friend—and enjoy growing in faith together!